

PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Daniel P. Coughlin, offered the following prayer:

Lord God, designer of nature's cycles and the judge of human events, continue to guide us through all the seasons of life.

Eight weeks ago today, this Nation was viciously attacked by terrorists. Help the Members of this House and all Americans to understand what has happened to us since then. That first day knocked us into a delirium of astonishment, anger, and loss. Give us now a second wind of Your Spirit.

You, Lord of revelation, have promised to be with us. Reveal to us through prayer the true nature of this Nation. Study in us the nature of war and its destructive forces.

Make Your presence known to us by faith renewed in You, Almighty God, and faith in others and in ourselves. Give us hope by the solidarity of friends in the family of nations, and continue to surprise us with the indomitable love of freedom arising from the depths of this people. May this strength never be stymied by distracting news-clips or extinguished by fear.

Rather, we have chosen to settle in for the unpredictable season of war, as we wrestle to pray "Thy will be done" in us, now and forever. Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House his approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. TRAFICANT) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. TRAFICANT led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

DISPENSING WITH CALL OF PRIVATE CALENDAR ON TODAY

Mr. MANZULLO. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the call of the Private Calendar be dispensed with today.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Illinois?

There was no objection.

SUBSTANTIAL AMOUNTS OF NUCLEAR COMPONENTS MISSING

(Mr. TRAFICANT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. TRAFICANT. According to news reports, the Department of Energy cannot find substantial amounts of plutonium and uranium. The plutonium and uranium were, according to a Department spokesman, either loaned out to research groups or, quite simply, it was "just the fault of sloppy bookkeeping."

Unbelievable. It appears that these two powerful components of nuclear destruction are being regulated as well as condoms at a Vegas brothel.

Beam me up here.

I yield back the need to find these lost items, before bin Laden delivers them to our front lawn.

SUPPORT TRADE PROMOTION AUTHORITY FOR PRESIDENT

(Mr. MANZULLO asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. MANZULLO. Mr. Speaker, renewing Trade Promotion Authority for the President is vitally important for small business exporters. Many will be surprised to learn that 97 percent of all U.S. exporters are small businesses and that 69 percent of all U.S. exporters employ less than 20 workers. In addition, the number of small business exporters has increased from 66,000 in 1987 to 224,000 in 1999.

Lowering foreign trade barriers helps small business exporters more than large companies. While most large companies can either export or set up a factory overseas, most small business exporters have only one choice, and that is to export from America.

There are many complicated issues that face small business exporters, such as streamlining foreign customs practice. Let us give the President the tools he needs to negotiate away these unfair trade barriers.

WHERE IS AVIATION SECURITY BILL?

(Mr. RODRIGUEZ asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. RODRIGUEZ. Mr. Speaker, where is the aviation security bill? I will tell you where it is. It has been hijacked. Americans are demanding that we act and that we act quickly; yet the House leadership continues to play politics.

The travel industry is also demanding that we act quickly; yet we fail to move.

It has been over 7 weeks since the September 11 date, and the American public knows that we could have already sent this bipartisan piece of legislation to the President to be signed. Yet this weekend we had the managers at the O'Hare Airport allow knives and other dangerous items to slip through. In Kentucky, we also had an occurrence.

Even Secretary of Transportation Mineta has concluded that the "Fed-

eral Government must take direct control of the security system."

Airport security is national security. National security should be handled by highly trained, motivated Federal workers.

We cannot afford to stand still. We must move forward.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair announces that he will postpone further proceedings today on each motion to suspend the rules on which a recorded vote or the yeas and nays are ordered, or on which the vote is objected to under clause 6 of rule XX.

Any record votes on postponed questions will be taken after debate has concluded on all motions to suspend the rules but not before 6:30 p.m. today.

PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE AUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2002

Mr. SENSENBRENNER. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 2047) to authorize appropriations for the United States Patent and Trademark Office for fiscal year 2002, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 2047

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Patent and Trademark Office Authorization Act of 2002".

SEC. 2. AUTHORIZATION OF AMOUNTS AVAILABLE TO THE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE.

There are authorized to be appropriated to the United States Patent and Trademark Office for salaries and necessary expenses for fiscal year 2002 an amount equal to the fees collected in fiscal year 2002 under title 35, United States Code, and the Trademark Act of 1946 (15 U.S.C. 1051 et seq.).

SEC. 3. ELECTRONIC FILING AND PROCESSING OF PATENT AND TRADEMARK APPLICATIONS.

(a) *ELECTRONIC FILING AND PROCESSING.—The Under Secretary of Commerce for Intellectual Property and Director of the United States Patent and Trademark Office (in this Act referred to as the "Director") shall, during the 3-year period beginning October 1, 2001, develop an electronic system for the filing and processing of patent and trademark applications, that—*

- (1) *is user friendly; and*
- (2) *includes the necessary infrastructure—*

(A) to allow examiners and applicants to send all communications electronically; and

(B) to allow the Office to process, maintain, and search electronically the contents and history of each application.

(b) *AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—Of amounts authorized under section 2, there is authorized to be appropriated to carry out subsection (a) of this section not more than \$50,000,000 for fiscal year 2002. Amounts made available pursuant to this subsection shall remain available until expended.*

SEC. 4. STRATEGIC PLAN.

(a) *DEVELOPMENT OF PLAN.—The Director shall, in close consultation with the Patent Public Advisory Committee and the Trademark Public Advisory Committee, develop a strategic plan*